

REMARKS

The present application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 5, 2003. Claims 78-88 are presented for examination, of which Claims 78, 83, and 88 are in independent form. Claims 78, 80, 82, 83, 85, 87, and 88 have been amended to define Applicants' invention more clearly. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Office Action states that Claims 77-88 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to provide sufficient disclosure for the phrases "registration character code" and "in-facsimile-machine dedicated character code." Applicants have carefully reviewed and amended Claims 78, 80, 82, 83, 85, 87, and 88 to change the phrase "registration character code" to --character code of personal computer--, and to change the phrase "in-facsimile-machine dedicated character code" to --character code of facsimile machine--. Support for the new phrases may be found, for example, in Figs. 99-104, which are described in the specification starting on page 116. Applicants note that changes are for clarification purposes and are not intended to narrow the scope of the claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

The Office Action states that Claims 77-88 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. For at least the reasons presented in the preceding paragraph, Applicants submit that amended Claims 77-88 are sufficiently definite and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The Office Action states that Claims 78-88 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,335,267 (Evers et al.). Applicants

respectfully traverse the rejections and submit that independent Claims 78, 83, and 88, together with the claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct from Evers et al. for at least the following reasons.

An aspect of the present invention set forth in Claim 78 is directed to a character data processing apparatus. The apparatus includes a conversion unit, a storage unit, and a transmission unit. The conversion unit converts a character code for personal computer inputted from a personal computer into a character code for facsimile machine by using a character code conversion table, in accordance with a data registration instruction to a facsimile machine from the personal computer. The storage unit causes a memory to store the character code for facsimile machine converted by the conversion unit. The transmission unit transmits the character code for facsimile machine stored in the memory to the facsimile machine so as to register the transmitted character code for facsimile machine in the facsimile machine. (See, for example, the fifteenth embodiment discussed in the specification starting at page 116.)

Evers et al. relates to a system for converting text data to facsimile data. As understood by Applicants, Evers et al. discloses that an ASCII code is converted into a binary text code, and the converted binary text code is transmitted to a facsimile machine.

The Evers et al. system, however, is not understood to include the feature of converting a character code for personal computer inputted from a personal computer into a character code for facsimile machine by using a character code conversion table, in accordance with a data registration instruction to a facsimile machine from the personal computer. Therefore, the Evers et al. system does not provide the benefit of enabling a character to be

registered in a facsimile machine from a personal computer whose character-code system is quite different from that of the facsimile machine.

Nothing has been found in Evers et al. that is believed to teach or suggest a character data processing apparatus that includes "a conversion unit, which converts a character code for personal computer inputted from a personal computer into a character code for facsimile machine by using a character code conversion table, in accordance with a data registration instruction to a facsimile machine from the personal computer," and "a storage unit, which causes a memory to store the character code for facsimile machine converted by said conversion unit," and "a transmission unit, which transmits the character code for facsimile machine stored in the memory to the facsimile machine so as to register the transmitted character code for facsimile machine in the facsimile machine," as recited in Claim 78.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 78 is not anticipated by Evers et al., and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Independent Claims 83 and 88 include features similar to those of Claim 78 discussed above, and therefore also are believed to be patentable for at least the above reasons.

The other rejected claims in this application depend from one or another of the independent claims discussed above, and therefore are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

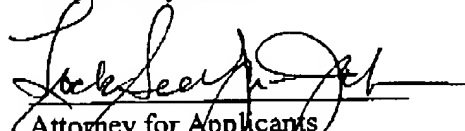
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully

request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

No petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action is deemed necessary for the present Amendment. If, however, such a petition is required to make this Amendment timely filed, then this paper should be considered such a petition and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite petition fee to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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